4-20-06



Docket No.: 08204/1200311-US3/10.035C3 (PATENT)

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of:

Paul I. Szabo et al.

Application No.: 10/659,011

Filed: September 10, 2003

For: METHOD AND SYSTEM FOR SCALING

NETWORK TRAFFIC MANAGERS USING

CONNECTION KEYS

Examiner: Rupal Dharia

Art Unit: 2141

Confirmation No.: 3494

PETITION UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.78(A)(3) FOR UNINTENTIONALLY DELAYED CLAIM UNDER 35 U.S.C. § 120 FOR THE BENEFIT OF PRIOR-FILED APPLICATIONS

MS Petition Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

Applicant hereby petitions the Commissioner pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.78(a)(3) to accept an unintentionally delayed claim for benefit of priority in this application.

This application is a continuation-in-part of U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 10/119,433, filed April 9, 2002 (which was co-pending with the present application when filed), which claimed the benefit of priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) from U.S. Provisional Application Serial No. 60/293,466, filed May 24, 2001. The specification and Application Data Sheet <u>inadvertently</u> and <u>unknown</u> to Applicant or his attorneys failed to refer to the direct parent applications, Serial No's. 10/119,433 and its Provisional 60/293,466.

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Applicant therefore petitions the Commissioner to accept his claim for the benefit of Serial No. 10/119,433 and its Provisional 60/293,466. The entire delay between the date the claim was due under 37 CFR § 1.78(a)(2) and the date of this petition was unintentional.

This petition is accompanied by the following:

- 1. Surcharge under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(t) in the amount of \$1370.00; and
- 2. The reference required by 35 U.S.C. § 120, 35 U.S.C. § 119 and 37 C.F.R. § 1.78(a)(2), in the form of an amendment amending the first sentence of the specification following the title to include a reference to the prior-filed applications Serial No's. 10/119,433 and 60/293,466, and also a Supplemental Application Data Sheet.

Applicant submits that all the requirements of 37 C.F.R. § 1.78(a)(3) are satisfied, and the Commissioner is respectfully requested to grant this Petition.

Dated: April 18, 2006

Respectfully submitted,

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